GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3528
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008
ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE FOR BAUXITE MINING PROJECTS
Gandhi Smt. Maneka

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has given environment clearance to Ashapura Minechem Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), on the basis of which the internal Expert Appraisal Committee on Mining gave its approval, was based on data copied from a Russian bauxite mine report;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal to rescind the clearance given to the said company;

(f) if so, the steps taken/likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has accorded environmental clearance on 29.12.2006 to the bauxite mining project of M/s Ashapura Minechem Ltd., located in District Ratnagiri in Maharashtra involving mine lease area of 99.86 hectares.

(c) & (d) The initial Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report of M/s Ashapura Minechem Ltd was considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) in the meeting held in May, 2006. EIA report was not found adequate by the EAC and as such the proponent was advised to revise the EIA report.Accordingly, the revised EIA report was considered by EAC in the meeting held in September, 2006 and Committee desired to have a site visit by a duly constituted Sub-committee. The site was inspected in October, 2006 and the Sub-committee submitted its report to EAC. The EAC reconsidered the project in the meeting held in November,2006 taking into the account the site visit report and finally recommended the project for environmental clearance. Based on the recommendations of the EAC, environmental clearance to the project was accorded by the Ministry.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Do not arise.